

WI-373  
Franklin O. Tingle Farm  
Mardela Springs vicinity  
Private

c. 1860, c. 1896

For the past half century this Mill Branch Road property has been known as the Franklin O. Tingle farm since he and his wife Edith A. Tingle purchased 80 3/4 acres in May 1944. The two-story, three-bay main block dates to the late nineteenth century and was probably built during the ownership of Elijah W. Bethard, who purchased two 40-acre parcels from the estate settlement of William C. Marsters in 1896. The Victorian era woodwork inherent in the turned baluster staircase and the mass-produced mantels on the first and second floors attest to the estimation of age. Attached to the back of the main block is an older story-and-a-half wing finished with third quarter of the nineteenth century woodwork. The former dining room features a mid century post and lintel mantel and an enclosed winder staircase that date around 1860.

Elijah W. Bethard and his wife Sarah sold the 80 3/4-acre farm in 1918 to William A. and Frank W. Chase of Fayette County, West Virginia. The same day William sold his interest in the property to Frank, who maintained ownership of the farm until a default on his mortgage in 1929 forced a public auction and sale of the property. Between 1933 and 1944 the farm was owned by Betty A. Church, who sold it to Franklin and Edith Tingle.

## MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Franklin O. Tingle Farm

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-373

## MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s):   Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation:     Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s):   Industrial-Urban Dominance  
1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s):           Single-family dwelling

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. WI-373

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Franklin O. Tingle Farm

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 8684 Mill Branch Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Mardela Springs ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name K. King Burnett

street & number P. O. Box 910 telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21803

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 18, P. 34  
liber 1493

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 32

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. WI-373

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Franklin. O. Tingle farm is located at 8684 Mill Branch Road near its intersection with Riggin Road south of Mardela Springs, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay farmhouse faces northeast with the gable roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis.

Built in two distinct periods, the Tingle farmhouse consists of a late nineteenth century two-story, three-bay, single-pile main block and a c. 1860-70 story-and-a-half rear wing that predates the front section. Supported on a low brick foundation the exterior is clad with artificial siding, and the steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The northeast (main) elevation is a three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. A four-panel front door is topped by two-light transom, and the entrance is sheltered by a single bay gable roofed porch. The porch roof has exposed rafter ends and is supported on square posts. Three two-over-two sash windows light the second floor. The edge of the roof is finished with exposed rafter ends and an open soffit. Rising through the center of the house is an interior brick stack that breaks the roof ridge on the north side of the center hall. A second center chimney stack was taken down and relocated to the south gable end. Two-over-two sash windows light the first and second floors on each gable end.

The southwest (rear) wall of the main block is partially covered by the story-and-a-half rear wing. Shed roofed porches, now enclosed, extend the two-room wing on each side. Protected by the porch are sections of plain weatherboard siding distinguished by circular saw kerf marks. Rising through the center of the wing is an interior brick chimney.

Inside the main block, the first and second floors are trimmed with late nineteenth-century woodwork. A center staircase features a turned newel post, turned balusters and a molded handrail. Plain door surrounds frame shallow profile four-panel doors. Factory produced Victorian mantels survive in each room, however the south room mantel has been repositioned in front of the relocated stove flue. The south hall partition was removed in order to provide for a larger living room. Original woodwork survives on the second floor as well. A turned baluster railing continues around the stairwell and meets an enclosed attic stair. Shallow four-panel doors are framed by plain surrounds. Bracketed Victorian mantel shelves remain in each bedroom.

The rear wing features third quarter of the nineteenth century woodwork. On the first floor there is a plain post and lintel mantel and an enclosed winder staircase in the northwest corner. Sawn lath is found throughout the rear wing.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-373

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

For the past half century this Mill Branch Road property has been known as the Franklin O. Tingle farm since he and his wife Edith A. Tingle purchased 80 3/4 acres in May 1944.<sup>1</sup> The two-story, three-bay main block dates to the late nineteenth century and was probably built during the ownership of Elijah W. Bethard, who purchased two 40-acre parcels from the estate settlement of William C. Marsters in 1896.<sup>2</sup> The Victorian era woodwork inherent in the turned baluster staircase and the mass-produced mantels on the first and second floors attest to the estimation of age. Attached to the back of the main block is an older story-and-a-half wing finished with third quarter of the nineteenth century woodwork. The former dining room features a mid century post and lintel mantel and an enclosed winder staircase that date around 1860.

Elijah W. Bethard and his wife Sarah sold the 80 3/4-acre farm in 1918 to William A. and Frank W. Chase of Fayette County, West Virginia.<sup>3</sup> The same day William sold his interest in the property to Frank, who maintained ownership of the farm until a default on his mortgage in 1929 forced a public auction and sale of the property.<sup>4</sup> Between 1933 and 1944 the farm was owned by Betty A. Church, who sold it to Franklin and Edith Tingle.

The house deserves listing in **Category B**, which identifies properties of moderate historical and architectural interest.

<sup>1</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, 356/103, 5 May 1944.

<sup>2</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 18/151, 21 December 1896.

<sup>3</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 109/369, 27 July 1918.

<sup>4</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, IDT 179/295, 24 January 1933.

Survey No. WI-373

**Acreage of nominated property** \_\_\_\_\_

**Quadrangle name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Quadrangle scale** \_\_\_\_\_

**UTM References** do NOT complete UTM references

**A**

Zone Easting Northing

**B**

Diagram B shows three empty coordinate axes. The first axis is labeled 'Zone' and has two tick marks. The second axis is labeled 'Easting' and has four tick marks. The third axis is labeled 'Northing' and has four tick marks.

Figure 1 shows three types of stimuli: (a) a single vertical line, (b) a vertical line with a horizontal bar at the top, and (c) a vertical line with horizontal bars at both the top and bottom.

D 

E L L L L L L L L L

[illegible]

G 

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[illegible]

### Verbal boundary description and justification

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian
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organization Private Consultant date 6/8/98

street & number P. O. Box 5 telephone 410-651-1094

city or town	Westover	state	Maryland	21871
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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST.**  
**DHCP/DHCD**  
**100 COMMUNITY PLACE**  
**CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023**  
**514-7600**

WI-373

Franklin O. Tingle Farm

8684 Mill Branch Road

Mardela Springs vic., Wicomico County, Maryland

Chain of title

Map 18, Parcel 34

1493/32

Dawn Evelyn Tingle Hooper

Gwen Elaine Tingle Willoughby

Personal Representative of the Estate of Marvin

Merle Tingle (whereas Marvin Merle Tingle died  
10/23/1995)

to

K. King Burnett

MSB 1439/165

Marvin Merle Tingle, Personal representative of the  
Estate of Edith Anna Tingle (died 9/23/1993)

to

2/13/1995

Marvin Merle Tingle

80 3/4 acres

356/103

Betty A. Church Schneider (formerly Betty A. Church)  
and Reginal A. Schneider

to

5/5/1944

Franklin O. Tingle

Edith A. Tingle

\$7,500

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Franklin O. Tingle Farm  
8684 Mill Branch Road  
Mardela Springs vic., Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

IDT 179/295

Levin C. Bailey, Assignee  
James L. Benjamin

to

1/24/1933

Betty A. Church

80 3/4 acres Lots Nos. 3 and 4  
Whereas at a public sale 9/21/1929  
Defaulted mortgage from Frank W. Chase to James  
A. Gordy, dated 8/31/1923, JCK 131/175

JCK 130/479

William A. Chase

to

7/27/1918

Frank W. Chase

JCK 109/369

Elijah W. Bethard  
Sarah E. Bethard

to

7/27/1918

William A. Chase  
Frank W. Chase, Fayette County, West Virginia

80 3/4 acres



WI-373

Page 3

Franklin O. Tingle Farm

8684 Mill Branch Road

Mardela Springs vic., Wicomico County, Maryland

Chain of title continued

JTT 18/151

Thomas B. Taylor, trustee

to

12/21/1896

Elijah W. Bethard

Whereas by a Decree of Circuit Court Thomas B. Taylor  
vs. Jane Bundage, No. 939 Equity, Thomas B. Taylor was  
appointed trustee to sell real estate of William C. Marsters

Chancery Book JTT 6/405 Lots 3 and 4 were sold to  
Elijah Bethard

